



Usborne Phonics Readers

Goose on the loose



Usborne Phonics Readers have been created in consultation with a language expert, taking into account the latest research on the most effective ways of teaching reading. Children who have just learned to read can enjoy the lively stories with very little guidance from an adult, gaining the experience and enthusiasm they need to become fully confident readers.

Stephen Cartwright's delightful illustrations complement the text and are designed to stimulate further interest. Fold-out pages add to the enjoyment.

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Phil Roxbee Cox & Stephen Cartwright

What is synthetic phonics?

Phonics-based reading involves learning to recognize the distinct sounds, or phonemes, that go together to make up words. There are just over 40 phonemes in the English language. Some phonemes correspond to a single letter, like the c-a-t sounds in the word "cat", and others to combinations of letters, such as the sh-ar-k sounds in the word "shark".

Synthetic phonics is the process of reading by *sounding* the individual phonemes in a word, and then synthesizing – running them together – or *blending* them to read the whole word. Children who learn to read using synthetic phonics start by learning the individual phonemes, then soon learn to sound and blend in order to read whole words. This gives them the confidence to read unfamiliar words and tackle new texts, an important step towards independent reading.

Words can be divided into two basic groups: regular phonic words, such as "cat", which can be read by sounding and blending, and words which are wholly or partly irregular. Most words in English are regular, but some very common words, such as "the" and "was", are irregular and have to be learned. When your child meets an unfamiliar word, encourage him or her to read it regularly; children may recognize the irregularity and correct themselves, or you can guide them if necessary.

Read this story with your child, encouraging him or her to sound out the words as you go. Soon, most children will start to sound out the words for themselves. This is an excellent way of helping to develop a fundamental reading skill.

Dr. Marlynne Grant

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Phil Roxbee Cox

Illustrated by Stephen Cartwright

Edited by Jenny Tyler



Language consultant: Marlynne Grant

BSc, CertEd, MEdPstch, PhD, AFBPs, CPsychol



There is a little yellow duck to find on every page.

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Goose is on a scooter.
She can't stay and play.



She's a goose on the loose.
"Get out of my way!"



She almost runs down Rooster Ron.



"Get out of my way!"
Goose goes scooting on.



Goose is scooting to Ted's shed...



"Look out, behind you.
Watch out, Ted!"



Ted ends up in his
flower bed.



Goose goes scooting down the road.



Toad groans and drops a heavy load.



The cows all moo.



The doves all coo.

The brown owl says,
"too-wit-too-woo".



Now Goose is heading for...

Look out! Goose is on the loose.



She upsets a bunch of kangaroos...

...and shocks a flock of cockatoos.



There are shouts of "hiss!"
and shouts of "boo!"



Then snarls and howls
and a hullabaloo.



"Goose must be stopped! What shall we do?"

But Goose has stopped, and feels a fool.



She's landed in the penguin pool!

